

# *Executive Proclamation*

## *State of South Dakota*

### *Office of the Governor*

**Whereas**, Over the past 50 years, the United States and South Dakota have achieved significant increases in life expectancy and reductions in the incidence of injury, disability and disease; and,

**Whereas**, Of the 30 additional years of life expectancy gained since the turn of the century, the public health approach is credited with the majority, approximately 25 years, of improvements in health status and expanded life expectancy; and,

**Whereas**, Public health in South Dakota succeeds by identifying and addressing patterns of disease, illness and injury in populations; and,

**Whereas**, The use of population-based strategies for disease and injury prevention, public health has contributed to the decline in illness and injury, including heart disease and stroke, tobacco related diseases, infectious diseases and motor vehicle and workplace injuries; and,

**Whereas**, National Public Health Week provides an opportunity for the public and public health professionals to learn about public health concerns and success stories which are vital to healthy communities, such as immunizing against infectious disease, maintaining good nutritional standards and providing good prenatal care; and,

**Whereas**, South Dakota will join the nation in celebrating the theme *Empowering Americans to Live Stronger, Longer*, that seeks to help older Americans overcome barriers to achieving good health through prevention, protection and planning to live longer, healthier lives:

**Now, Therefore, I, M. Michael Rounds**, Governor of the state of South Dakota, do hereby proclaim April 4-10, 2005, as

## **PUBLIC HEALTH WEEK**

in South Dakota, and I call upon all citizens to recognize public health's many contributions to healthier lives for all residents of the state.



**In Witness Whereof**, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the state of South Dakota, in Pierre, the Capital City, this Tenth Day of March in the Year of Our Lord, Two Thousand and Five.

A handwritten signature of M. Michael Rounds in black ink.

M. Michael Rounds, Governor

Attest:

A handwritten signature of Chris Nelson in black ink.

Chris Nelson, Secretary of State